



KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION SCHOOL-BASED DECISION MAKING NEWSLETTER

June 2012

SBDM District Contact Updates

We are in the process of updating and revising our distribution list for SBDM for the 2012-13 school year. If you are retiring (or changing positions within your district or moving to another district) and someone else will be the district SBDM contact, please let us know as soon as possible so that we can ensure that information is distributed to your district.

KET *Education Matters* Series

Kentucky Educational Television produces a monthly series that explores timely issues. Within each show are videos from Kentucky classrooms and lively panel discussions. District coordinators and training partners are welcomed and encouraged to use these videos as part of training for experienced members. As a note to SBDM coordinators: If you use these materials as part of your training or you offer the Senate Bill 1 sessions, please e-mail Cynthia Barton (cbarton@ket.org) with feedback for the evaluations you receive from your participants.

April 2012 – [Inside the Teaching Profession](#)
March 2012 – [Implications of Year-round High School Athletics](#)
February 2012 – [New Directions in Arts Education](#)
November 2011 – [From Student to Graduate](#)
October 2011 – [Parents: Empowered, Engaged, and Involved](#)
September 2011 – [Technology for Next Generation Learning](#)

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What if a teacher representative on the school council member applies for a principal vacancy at his/her school?

A: If a teacher representative from a SBDM council applies for a position of principal within the school, it is best practice and highly recommended that the teacher resign from school council. If the teacher resigns, the teaching staff has the opportunity to hold elections and have a majority voice on council. If the teacher decides to remain on the

school council, the teacher must not participate in the school council's discussions concerning the vacancy, such as review of the applications, interview questions and interview schedule. Also note that there would be only be two teacher and two parent voices remaining; thus, equal representation from both and not the majority teacher voice as intended by statute.

SBDM Training Verifications

By November 1 of each year, the principal through the local superintendent will forward to the Kentucky Department of Education the names and addresses of each council member and verify that the required training in the implementation of school-based decision making has been completed. Previously, this reporting has been completed on an Excel® spreadsheet. This year the submission will be a Web-based application. More information, including instructions, will be distributed to district SBDM coordinators soon.

SBDM Training EILA Certificates

Many of you are planning training sessions for your school council members or are providing training sessions statewide as requested by districts. EILA certificates for the SBDM training session materials that are located on the [SBDM Website](#) were sent via e-mail several weeks ago. However, if you did not receive the EILA certificates for the school council member training sessions, please contact Judy Littleton at judith.littleton@education.ky.gov or at (502) 564-3791 so that we can send you these for the sessions you have planned.

Governor Signs “Districts of Innovation” Bill

Gov. Steve Beshear joined lawmakers and school children earlier this week at the Woodford County Early Childhood Center to sign a bill relating to education innovation.

House Bill 37, sponsored by Rep. Carl Rollins, allows school districts to apply to become “Districts of Innovation.” This designation will allow the districts more flexibility in curriculum, instructional models, funding and school scheduling.

“The objective of House Bill 37 is to allow our public school teachers and administrators to try new and innovative approaches to improve instruction that will result in improved academic achievement,” said Rollins, of Midway. “The bill requires the Kentucky Department of Education to create a rigorous application system for districts. Those districts approved to be Districts of Innovation will be able to implement ideas that current statutes and regulations deny. The ultimate benefit of the legislation will be to encourage other districts to duplicate successful strategies tested in the districts of innovation.”

Updated Facts Sheet Available

The Kentucky Education Facts Sheet, a compendium of commonly-requested items about the state's public school system, has been updated. The latest version of the Fact Sheet is available on the [KDE Website](#). New this year is information about Advanced Placement, including numbers of exams and high scores. In the past, the sheet was updated around the beginning of the calendar year. This year, the update was held until after the state biennial budget was passed, so that updated financial figures could be included.

"A successful man is one who can lay a firm foundation with the bricks others have thrown at him."

David Brinkley (1920-2003)
American newscaster

For questions concerning SBDM, contact us at:

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